

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 47491	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/IT2005/000114	International filing date (day/month/year) 01.03.2005	Priority date (day/month/year) 04.03.2004	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC INV. D21H27/02 D21H27/30 B31F1/07			
<p>Applicant FABIO PERINI S.P.A. et al.</p>			
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of 8 sheets, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)), containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>			
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application 			
Date of submission of the demand 02.12.2005	Date of completion of this report 11.07.2006		
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized officer Naeslund, P Telephone No. +49 89 2399-8614		



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/IT2005/000114

IAP5 Rec'd PCT/PTO 01 SEP 2006

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on
 - the international application in the language in which it was filed
 - a translation of the international application into , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 - international search (under Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))
 - publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4(a))
 - international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))
2. With regard to the **elements*** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):
 - 1-14 as originally filed

Description, Pages

1-14 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-62 received on 02.12.2005 with letter of 24.11.2005

Drawings, Sheets

1/4-4/4 as originally filed

- a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing
- 3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
 - the description, pages
 - the claims, Nos.
 - the drawings, sheets/figs
 - the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
- 4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
 - the description, pages
 - the claims, Nos.
 - the drawings, sheets/figs
 - the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
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International application No.
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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	1-62
	No:	Claims	NONE
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	1-62
	No:	Claims	NONE
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-62
	No:	Claims	NONE

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

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Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: WO 97/08386 A (KAYSERSBERG; GRAFF, PIERRE) 6 March 1997 (1997-03-06) cited in the application
- D2: US-A-2 502 111 (WALKER CHARLES R) 28 March 1950 (1950-03-28)
- D3: US-A-5 686 168 (LAURENT ET AL) 11 November 1997 (1997-11-11)
- D4: EP-A-0 408 248 (JAMES RIVER CORPORATION OF VIRGINIA) 16 January 1991 (1991-01-16) cited in the application
- D5: US-A-5 736 223 (LAURENT ET AL) 7 April 1998 (1998-04-07) cited in the application
- D6: EP-A-0 426 548 (KAYSERSBERG SA) 8 May 1991 (1991-05-08)
- D7: GB-A-1 245 280 (KIMBERLY-CLARK CORPORATION) 8 September 1971 (1971-09-08)

The document D1 is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claims 1,24 and 54 and shows (see in particular figures 2 and 3 with corresponding parts in the description) a multi-ply web material, comprising three plies joined to one another by gluing.

The subject-matter of claims 1,24 and 54 differs in particular in that said first and second decorative elements are distributed randomly with respect to each other/said first and second embossing units and said first and second path for said first and second ply are arranged such that said first and said second decorative elements are distributed randomly with respect to each other on said first and second ply. This concept is also not known from any of the other documents cited in the international search report. Therefore claims 1,24 and 54 are novel (Article 33(2) PCT).

The problem to be solved by the present invention may be regarded as an alternative way of producing glued embossed multi-ply web material allowing particular and ameliorative aesthetic and technical-functional effects to be obtained with respect to conventional products and where further the decorative elements produced by the

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projections on a first ply are less prone to be damaged in the second lamination to which the ply is subjected in a following lamination.

The solution to this problem proposed in claims 1, 24 and 54 of the present application is considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) for the following reasons: There is no hint seen in the documents cited in the international search report towards an arrangement such that said first and second decorative elements are distributed randomly with respect to each other or where said first and second embossing units and said first and second path for said first and second ply are arranged such that said first and said second decorative elements are distributed randomly with respect to each other on said first and second ply.

The arrangements of the prior art are related to tip- to- tip embossment, embossment of the outer plies in the same embossing unit and/or showing the same pattern in corresponding locations of both the outer plies.

Claims 2-23,25-53, 55-62 are dependent on claims 1,24 and 54 respectively and as such also meets the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.

The industrial applicability would appear evident (Article 33(4) PCT).